

PRESS RELEASE
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Alexandre David

At the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal

Montréal, September 18, 2002. From September 19 to November 3, 2002, the Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal presents the exhibition *Alexandre David*, featuring a group of new works by this multitalented Québec artist. The first show to date devoted to both his sculpture and his photography, it offers a unique opportunity to discover the versatility of David's work, as well as the possible convergences within these different approaches.

The exhibition is made up of eight works. Visitors will first encounter three monumental sculptures specially created for the show. Each of these mural pieces is organized around an orthogonal plan forming sharply defined volumes. While emphasizing the multiplicity of possible perceptions, the artist develops each of his sculptures as a complex entity that can be understood as an image, object or space. David makes deliberate use of very general references in creating his works, which consequently take on an indeterminate character and reveal overlaps between sculpture, architecture, drawing and painting.

In addition, the exhibition includes five photographs in which drawing plays a central role. These pieces, which fall somewhere between landscape sketches, promotional illustrations and architectural drawings, depict various urban sites such as industrial zones, suburban and downtown neighbourhoods, and shopping centres. In his work as a whole, David examines indetermination between genres and evokes other experiences and artistic disciplines, with particular focus on the relationship between drawing and other art forms. He is also interested in the way the experience of art merges with its own representation.

Alexandre David was born in Montréal. He followed up a degree from Concordia University with studies in London in the late eighties. He first made a name for himself in the nineties with his painting using synthetic felt with camouflage patterns. He then developed a reputation for his photographs, in which drawing is a strong presence. His work as a sculptor is less well known, and yet plays an important part in his artistic practice. He has participated in a large number of group shows, first of all in London, at the Serpentine Gallery (*Barclays Young Artist Award 1991*) and The Tannery (*Tight*, 1994), and then at the Het Consortium in Amsterdam (*and...and...and...and...*, 1999), among other galleries. More recently, he has shown his work in Montréal, at Galerie René Blouin in 2000 and Optica in 2002. His work has also been seen in solo exhibitions

at VU (*Dessins d'eau submergés*, 1999) in Québec City, and VOX (*Ciel nuageux*, 1996) and Optica (*Alexandre David*, 2000) in Montréal. He teaches at Université Laval.

Catalogue and meeting with the artist

A 24-page catalogue accompanies the exhibition. It contains an interview between Alexandre David and Gilles Godmer, curator at the Musée and organizer of the exhibition. It also includes reproductions of all the works on exhibit, a detailed chronology, a list of works and a comprehensive bibliography. The catalogue may be purchased for \$11.95 at the Musée's Olivieri bookstore and from other booksellers.

The opening will take place on Wednesday, September 18, 2002, at 6 p.m. The artist will meet the public just before the opening at 5:30, when he will discuss various aspects of his artistic approach.